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Tuskegee U. and AFRL form research partnership

by Timothy R. Anderl, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — Charles E. Browning, director of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Materials and Manufacturing Directorate and Benjamin Payton, president of Tuskegee University, recently signed an Educational Partnership Agreement at Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Ala.

This agreement, the first of its kind with a Historically Black College and University, will leverage the strengths of both organizations and encourage the study of science, mathematics and engineering at all levels of education. Under the agreement, Tuskegee University students will be provided course credit to undertake research and development projects related to the directorate throughout the year while at both the university and at Wright-Patterson AFB.

The Materials and Manufacturing Directorate will provide access to the directorate's hardware, personnel, equipment and facilities, and AFRL personnel will teach courses and materials related science, mathematics, and engineering at the university.

The directorate has an 85-year history of innovations that have been instrumental in creating and sustaining the U.S. Air Force, and Tuskegee University has a 120-year history of innovation, which is deeply rooted in the legacies of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. Tuskegee University also produced the country's first African American Air Force General, Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. @

